

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): An isolated protein<sub>1</sub> comprising ~~the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence~~ an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, or a salt thereof.
2. (currently amended): An isolated protein<sub>1</sub> consisting of an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, or a salt thereof.
3. (canceled).
4. (currently amended): An isolated polynucleotide<sub>1</sub> comprising a polynucleotide encoding the protein ~~according to claim 1 or the partial peptide thereof~~ comprising an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1.
5. (original): The polynucleotide according to claim 4, which is DNA.
6. (currently amended): An isolated polynucleotide<sub>1</sub> consisting of a nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2.
7. (currently amended): A recombinant vector<sub>1</sub> comprising the polynucleotide according to claim 5.
- 8-9. (canceled).
10. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical<sub>1</sub> comprising the protein or its salt according to claim 1 ~~or the partial peptide or its salt thereof.~~
- 11-16. (canceled).
17. (currently amended): A kit for screening a compound or its salt that promotes or inhibits the activity of the protein or its salt according to claim 1 ~~or the partial peptide or its salt thereof~~, which comprises the protein or its salt according to claim 1 ~~or the partial peptide or its salt thereof.~~

18-25. (canceled).

26. (original): The pharmaceutical according to claim 10, which is a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for a neurodegenerative disease.

27-36. (canceled).